Previous references.

File No. 36 of 1913

1913.

(G. 7)

Serial Nos. 4

Later references.

G. 2. 26-14 B & 1.
G. 2 163-14 B & 1 & 2
" 102-17 Notes, 3 July 1918

P 42E

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 5

Part B. for March 1914

SUBJECT.

Surprise visit system for the check of Accounts in Government & other Local Fund Offices.

Note dated 22-10-1909 on the introduction of a Surprise visit system for the check of Accounts work in Government, Local Fund & other Offices.

Bell
6/11/1914

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

12

File No. of 190

Serial No.

Comptroller's note of 28th Oct 1909.

The file relating to the organization of a Local Audit Deptt is understood to be before the Retrenchment Committee. It is desirable to deal with the question early.

In the meantime the proposals regarding surprise visits may be approved.

To Council. [signature]

Circulated 4/5/11/09

165
8.11.09

The system of surprise visits of inspection by the Cmptr Genl or his Assistants, to check the Cash & Stores will I think have a very good effect upon the morale of the Subordinate Officials and may be introduced with advantage.

The Cmptr Genl should be required to give some notice of the intended inspection confidentially to the Officer Concerned. Such a courtesy is due to the Head of the Office or the Deptt.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13-5 08

Serial No.

The Comptroller should not have the power to suspend the erring Official. He may suggest it to the Head of the Office.

The entire absence of a local audit hitherto is perhaps accountable for the defalcations recently brought to light but with the institution of a local audit, the necessity for a surprise visit is not so great.

The prestige and dignity of the Head of Office requires that he should be taken fully into the confidence of the Comptroller before the surprise visit is paid.

The file re local audit is pending in the Retrenchment Secretary and will be disposed of as early as possible.

8/11/09

GPB—55,000—27-4-09

Serial No.

The idea of surprise visits & Surprise inspections is a good one, though it is by no means new. It may with advantage be put into practice more frequently than is usually done.

The Comptroller's proposals briefly stated are as follows:

In addition to the local audit which he has proposed, and will be applied to Local Boards, Murray Institutions, the Government Press, the State Troops &c, a system of surprise visits by the Comptroller and officers deputed by him should be instituted in respect of all Government Offices, ~~under which~~ the Comptroller or an officer deputed by him will be at liberty to visit any office in the State without previous intimation, and check the accounts or verify the whole or any portion of the stock. If there is anything wrong, he makes a report to Government, and may place the responsible Ini-

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—55,000—27-4-09

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

File No. of 190

Serial No.

nisterial Officer at once un-
der suspension. To help him
to carry out this work, an
additional gazetted Officer is
asked for.

The Comptroller adds that
rules for surprise visits by
the Audit department like the
above, do not exist in Bri-
tish India, where such checks
are left to ~~the~~ ~~Auditor~~ Controlling
officers and heads of depart-
ments. The reason for their
non-existence is not men-
tioned by him, but is obvious,
and to discover it we need
not go beyond the first prin-
ciples enunciated in the account
Code. In 1892, an order was
issued by Government provid-
ing that the Comptroller should
inspect not less than once
in two years, every District
Treasury in the State. This

Flag B

GDR—55,000—27.4.09

Serial No.

order was in force till the end of 1906 and it would be interesting to know how many times* the Comptroller was able to inspect such treasuries, and personally to issue needful instructions to the officers concerned. The Orders of 1906 directed the discontinuance of biennial inspections of district treasuries by the Comptroller, and the extracts of the Civil Account Code and other provisions reproduced therein clearly show that the Comptroller is not an executive officer; that his duty is to keep the accounts of a Province, that he can and ought to exercise a very close and constant supervision over the transactions of each treasury, by means of cl

(and was renewed in 1907)) Flag E

* (A list of inspections reported & [illegible] is appended). Flag C

Flag D

GPB—55,000—27.4.09

Serial No.

returns, and that he should not aspire to do more, and that no change should be made which would tend to relieve Commissioners and district officers of their responsibility for management and inspection.

If this is the extent to which only it is permissible for an Account Officer to go, even in respect of treasuries, it shows in my humble opinion, that the present proposal which makes the Comptroller the General Inspector and Supervisor of all the departments of the state, vesting in him powers not given to any single officer of the State (except perhaps the Dewan), errs very much on the side of extravagance, and I regret I am quite unable to support it.

GPB—55,000—27.4.09

Serial No.

The Financial Secretary writes strongly, and I do not know whether it is permissible for any officer of Government writing officially to use such language as is contained (e.g.) in the last sentence of Para 6 of his note. The reasons that he gives for his novel proposal are that there have been many cases of defalcation and that the executive officers generally do not recognise their responsibilities in the matter of safeguarding Government money and Government property. The charge in its wholesale extent may or may not be admitted. I also venture to ~~think~~ question whether Allyssore is the only place where defalcations have occurred. But Conceding (as which there is no doubt) that the evil exists here, is this either the proper or an all-suffi-

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

Serial No.

cient remedy?

The fact that the Comptroller cannot allow any reduction of ~~his~~ the number of his assistants when ~~Retrenchment~~ general retrenchment is contemplated, and has in fact been asking for some increases does to show that he cannot claim to be an officer with time enough to take up ~~other~~ additional duties for effective performance. Even if he had such time, it would only indicate that he has too many assistants, and that some reduction may usefully be made in their number. What is the special need for tacking on incongruous duties to him, and for weakening the sense of responsibility of the

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

Serial No.

other heads of departments?

He is a competent authority to advise us as to the forms of accounts and other cognate matters by which the amount of cash and stock can be easily ascertained. But that the cash and the stock exist can be ~~identified~~ ascertained by any other departmental officer just as well. There is an underlying ~~postu-~~ ~~late~~ assumption in this proposal that the departmental officers cannot be fully trusted. Ignoring again the just or unjust character of this sweeping assumption, can this be remedied by creating the Comptroller as a common head for all the departments of the State? All Comptrollers

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

Serial No.

are not alike, and just as we may sometimes have a head of a department whose activity or sense of responsibility are not all that could be desired, we may at any time have to be satisfied with a Comptroller of inferior capacity. In that case, how would his having the power of surprise visit and supervision be better than the same power which has all along been vested in the superior officers of each department.

The proceedings of Government which have in many cases recently thrown the burden of paying the money lost by government on the Officers whose want of care gave room to such

GPB—50,000—18-5-08

Serial No.

defalcations by under-
hugs, have, I believe,
opened the eyes of most
of the Officers to the extent
of their duty and responsi-
bility in such matters.

The rules proposed by
the Comptroller in Para. 4
of his note may be prescribed
(with suitable changes) for
observance in all offices. In
fact, most of them are in
force already either by express
order or tacit understand-
ing. The departmental heads
and other Superior officers
may be directed to see
that the rules are duly car-
ried out & Govt. Money
and Stock safely preserved,

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—18-5-08

Serial No.

by making frequent and unexpected inspections. ~~The~~ Of course these officers are expected to have mastered the details of the accounts and returns prescribed. If necessary, however, an assistant from the Comptroller's office may be deputed occasionally to help the head of any department who applies for such assistance. In fact, everything that the Comptroller hopes to achieve by means of his 'surprise visits' can be easily accomplished, by laying down such rules as he may advise for the guidance of the proper

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

Serial No.

inspecting Officers, with-
out resorting to this awk-
ward and anamolous
procedure of superposing the
audit Officer as a uni-
versal Inspector general of
the State.

12/11/09

Of Course, in Cases in which
it is considered necessary, Govt
may by special order, depute
the Comptroller to inspect the
accounts, Stock &c of any depart
ment, but it seems to me to
be altogether out of the question
as is herein asked for
to vest such power, habitually in
any subordinate authority un-
der the Government.

12/11/09

Dewan 12/11/09

3264
15/11/09

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

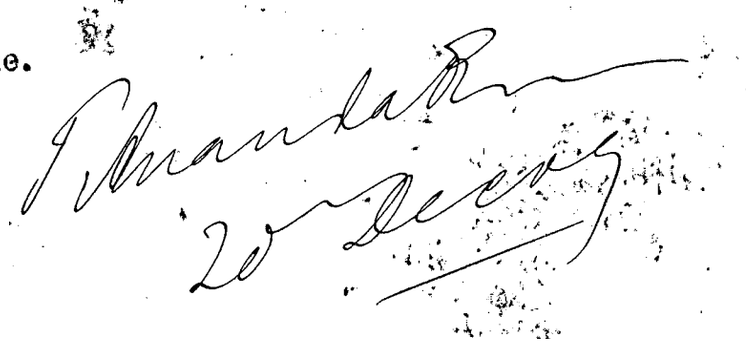
GPB—50,000—18-5-08

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit for perusal a note by the Comptroller (together with the Councillors' minutes thereon), in which he proposes the introduction of a system of surprise visits by himself and his Assistants for the check of accounts, stores &c., in Government and Local Fund offices and all other offices (such as those of aided institutions) over which Government has control. The proposals briefly are that, in addition to the local audit which he has proposed of the accounts of the offices of Local and Municipal Boards, Muzrai Institutions, the Government Press, the State Troops &c., the Comptroller, by himself or by any of his Assistants deputed by him, should be at liberty to visit any public office in the State without previous notice, check the accounts and verify the whole or any portion of the stock in the office, and if anything is wrong immediately place the responsible ministerial officers under suspension and report the matter to Government.

2. There is considerable force in the remarks

of the Councillors. The idea may be dropped. The great remedy against the occurrence of the irregularities which it is the object of the Comptroller's present proposals to find out and correct, lies in careful selection of officers and strict enforcement of discipline.



Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja

Subject

2/12/09
676

Comptroller's note proposing the introduction of a system of surprise visits by himself and his Assistants for the check of accounts, stores etc in Government and Local Fund Offices and all other Offices over which Government has control.

Order.

8&4
10/12/10

Mr Campbell
Add this file
Some such
arrangement
the scheme is not
a bad one. Officers
Inspecting Statutes
Commissioner for the work

(To be placed
before the Dewan
4th November)

Serial No.

File relating to certain proposals of the Comptroller regarding surprise visits to —

Replaced before Members.

Mr Campbell asks us to consider whether it is not expedient to launch the Comptroller's proposals tentatively with the following modifications:—

(a) The visits to be by the Comptroller's Officers only. The function not to be delegated to any officer below the rank of Asst Comptr.

(b) There need be no suspension from duty pending subsequent appeals by the Visitor — in anticipation of such action by the authority competent to adjudicate said appeal —

(c) Persons in charge of the Offices of the Deputy Commr. Where head of the Office is surprise visited —

Mr 9 Feb 60

Members)

CSB
10/2/60

GPB—50.000—18-5-68

Serial No.

I have already recorded my views which do not conflict with those now placed before the Council for reconsideration

WRR
10/2/10

~~I have nothing to add to my Memorandum. I do not propose any modifications~~

~~As for the suggested modification (a), I had taken it for granted (though the terms of the Comptroller's note are wider) that he did not mean to delegate the task of making surprise visits to officers below the rank of gazetted officers. As in my opinion, the Comptroller's claim is inadmissible even if the power is to be exercised by himself alone, I do not see that it can make any difference in its favour that he is not to be allowed to delegate such powers to his clerks.~~

~~B~~ The qualifications (b) & (c) are ~~those~~ the same as were sug-

GPB—50,000—13-5 08

Serial No.

ested in the 1st Councillor's note. If notice is given to the Dy Cr or other head of the department, the visit cannot be a surprise one, so far as that Officer is concerned. That is no doubt some improvement, and goes to show that there are other Officers ~~but~~ besides the Comptroller and his Assistants whom the Government may trust to a certain extent. ~~If~~ But the further question naturally arises. If these Dy Crs or other heads of departments can be trusted to this extent, what is the reason for not trusting them to make such surprise visits themselves and carry on a searching examination in respect of cash and stock which ought to be in the possession of their Subordinates?

The other Condition (to suspend erring officials in offices not under his control)

GPB—50,000—18-5-08

Serial No.

was so absurdly extravagant that one could hardly have considered it necessary to refute the claim. The modifications suggested thus are in my humble opinion, of little or no significance. The whole scheme is founded on an erroneous & altogether inadmissible principle. I think it is unnecessary and inexpedient to implicitly recognise the pretension that it is only a particular department of Govt that looks upon public interests and public property as peculiarly under its care and protection & that all other departments of Govt (which have all along been quite independent) need to be looked after by the officers of this department. I think that the combination of the Comptroller's and Financial Secretary's duties in the same person go quite far enough (if indeed not too far), and

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13·5·08

Submitted to the Dewan for orders

In the note placed below I pray for two things:

(1) That my scheme for the organization of a local audit Deptt be considered and orders passed early.

(2) That the system of surprise visits to check cash & stores be introduced.

The steps in my opinion are important & urgent and I solicit the favour of the Dewan's kindly taking personal interest in the matter so as to have early orders passed.

B181/ 27/10/09

J S Chakravarti
Comptr & Jud Sec
28/10/09

1 Very well
2 Where stands the proposal relating to the Local audit Deptt
Suggestion made 28.10.09
3 Introduction of the surprise audit proposed - Draft Note to Council

Private Secretary to the Dewan.

About two years ago I submitted a scheme of surprise visits for the verification of cash and stores in the several offices of the State. I have been informed from time to time that the scheme has received approval, but I do not find any orders on the subject. Will you kindly let me know how the matter stands at present and whether orders may be expected at an early date? I make this enquiry to be able to judge as to whether a supplementary and reminding note should be submitted on the subject.

A reply before the close of to-day's office business will oblige

15 JAN. 1913

Next week
file
22/11/09

Subject

The proposed introduction of a system of Surprise Visits by the Comptroller or one of his Assistants for the check of accounts, stores etc, in Government and local-fund offices, and all other offices over which Government has control.

Comptroller's Note d/ 22nd October 1909.

Reason for the introduction

The system of local audit will apply only to local bodies such as District Boards, Municipalities, major Muzrai institutions etc, and also to the accounts of some of the Government offices with a very large transaction such as Govt Press, Imperial Service Regiment, etc. This would, however, leave other Govt offices and institutions such as Colleges, Schools, Hospitals etc.

The numerous cases of defalcation in Govt offices and institutions have made the Comptroller to come to the conclusion that "the Heads of offices in Mysore either from ignorance or from slackness do not bring that amount of intelligence, and

industry to bear on the work of checking receipts and disbursements under their control as can be reasonably expected from them". To awaken in them such a sense of responsibility he proposes a system of Surprise visits by himself or his Assistants in respect of all Govt offices.

The outlines of the Proposed System

(a) All Heads of Offices will be required to keep the accounts of money and stock concerning their offices correctly posted up to date a Cashbook in the case of large offices being also maintained.

(b) The Comptroller or any officer deputed by him will be at liberty to visit any office in the State on any day without previous intimation and check the accounts and verify cash or stock. A Statement of discrepancies, if any, is to be given to the Head of the office for explanation.

(c) The ministerial Head of the office should be held

the Office both Gazetted and ministerial shall be present and render assistance.

Agency required. The Comptroller thinks that an additional Gazetted officer will be required and proposes to utilize for the purpose one of the Assistant Commissioners on the Reserve list.

The Dewan under note dated 3rd November 1909, approved of the system and circulated for favour of opinion to the Councillors.

The First Councillor Mr K P Pattamma Chetty thought that it would have "a very good effect upon the morale of the subordinate officials", and approved of its introduction with certain modifications, ~~that~~ viz

some notice of the intended inspection should be confidentially given to the officer concerned as a matter of courtesy,

and that the power of suspension should rest with the Head of the Office.

The Second Councillor under date 12th November 1909 has put on record a strong dissenting minute objecting ~~note~~ to the introduction of such a system. The objections put forward are briefly as follows:-

(a) The proposal errs on the side of extravagance in that the Comptroller is constituted a General Inspector of all the Departments of the State, vesting in him powers not given to any single officer except, perhaps, the Dewan.

(b) It will be lacking on incongruous duties to the Comptroller, and weakening the responsibility of other Heads of Departments.

(c) The verification does not call for any expert knowledge

(d) It will be some reflection upon the trustworthiness of the Departmental officers concerned.

(e) The recent orders requiring the Heads of Offices

to pay the money defalcated have opened the eyes of the Offices to the extent of their duty and responsibility in such matters.

He suggests that these rules may be prescribed for observance for Heads of Departments, and other Superior Officers and the Comptroller may depute one of his Assistants to ~~such~~ help in such inspections at the request of the above Officers.

At the desire of Mr. Campbell, the papers were again circulated to the Councillors for a consideration for the tentative sanction of the Comptroller's proposals with the modifications suggested by the First Councillor, and with the reservation that the deputation should be of officers not below the rank of Assistant Comptrollers.

Even with these modifications the Second Councillor is of opinion that "the whole Scheme is founded on an erroneous and altogether inadmissible principle, and that the proposed addition (to the Comptroller's duties)

would be quite a mistake
from all points of view.

Leh
16/11/12

The objections raised by the
1st Cl. are very weighty and have
to be duly considered. The proposed
system is capable of being viewed
as a check upon the work of super-
vision by the departmental heads
and some amount of friction is
certain to result. If necessary the
system of local audit may be
extended to other large offices and
institutions. The HQ of depts may
be called upon to exercise a closer
supervision if need be by occasional
visits -

Comptroller's pro-
-posals for in-
-troduction of a
system of Sur-
prise Visits —

hw W.R.
Please give a file
No to this and file it
without a serial No.
R.V.W.
18/3/14

The Dewan
was pleased to
say that he
would consult
the Comptroller
on the subject

4499

Kindly keep this file ready to
at 12 noon tomorrow. Dewan absent
2nd Conference at 3 p.m.

Returned to Br H

14/8/14.

Subj.
Received on 16/3/14, 5.30 p.m., without
letter. May the correspondence
be returned.
16/3/14

17/3

13.11.14

Dewan absent

GP 36-13-5 (1)

Note on the introduction of Surprise visit system for the check of accounts in Government and Local Fund offices and all other offices, e.g those of aided institutions over which Government has control-

Sometime ago I submitted to Government a scheme for the institution of a Local Audit Department in Mysore on the lines of such Departments existing in British Provinces. I explained, when submitting my proposals, as fully as seemed to me to be required, the great necessity of introducing ~~the~~ additional the reform. Though a small amount of expenditure would be perfectly justified for securing the ends in view Viz. the safety of the public funds on the one hand and the purity of the machinery handling the money on the other, I was anxious that, the question of additional expense should not delay the adoption of my suggestions. And I therefore suggested an arrangement by which the necessary refon could be carried out without any extra cost. I pointed out that there was no necessity for maintaining two separate Treasuries in a station like Bangalore and that the Huzur Treasury could be reorganized ~~with~~ into a branch of the Comptroller's office. The saving effected by the re-

reorganization of the Huzur Treasury as proposed by me together with certain reductions in the Local Fund Branch of my office would be nearly sufficient to start the Local Audit Department; and two necessary reforms Viz. the reorganization of the Huzur Treasury and the introduction of the System of Local Audit would be carried out with very little additional expense to Government.

2 I must confess that the fact that no orders have been passed by Government on the subject of constituting a regular local Audit Department the scheme for which was submitted by me in last in a fairly complete form has caused me great disappointment. I submitted the scheme in great hopes that the Government, anxious to secure proper financial check and control over the transactions of the local funds and of preventing corruption and misapplication of public money, would welcome the suggestion and readily accord sanction to a proposal which without any material increase of expenditure, would have the effect of placing at their disposal a machinery of controlling local funds which is considered necessary in every Province of British India. Having had been in charge for sometime of the local audit establishment of one of the largest Provinces in India where annual audit of original accounts of receipts and expenditure of local bodies like Municipalities, District Boards, Trust Funds,

of supplement to the system ~~of~~ of Local Audit already proposed by me. The system of local audit will apply only to ~~to~~ local bodies such as District Boards, Municipalities, Major Muzrai Institutions etc. The accounts of ~~such~~ some Government offices which have very large transactions as regards receipt and disbursement of Government money or stores e.g. the Government Press, the Imperial and Local Service Regiments etc will also be included in the local audit scheme. The accounts of these offices will be audited in the office of the Comptroller through the vouchers received from Treasuries in the usual way; but for transactions within the office which cannot be reached by the centralized audit of vouchers in the Comptroller's office there will be a check once a year on the spot by the Local Audit Department. But it is impossible to ~~exercise~~ extend this through local audit to all Government offices and ~~institutitutions~~ institutions such as Colleges, Schools, Hospitals etc. The heads of these institutions are responsible for seeing that all receipts are properly collected and remitted to the Treasury and that the expenditure does not exceed what is really necessary in the interests of the public service. But from numerous cases of defalcation in Government offices and institutions which have come to my notice, it seems to me that the heads of offices

Kolar Police Defalcation
Mysore Judge Court Defalcation
Forest Office Defalcation
Central College fees Defalcatio
Hossarghatta Defalcation

in Mysore either from ignorance or from slackness do not bring that amount of intel-ligence and industry to bear in the work of checking receipts and disbursements under their control as can be reasonably expected from them. Money transactions and accounts are considered to be routine and are in many cases left entirely to subordinate officials. Of course, the actual transactions must be done by sub-ordinates but the head of the office shou be able to control and check his subordi-nates properly and must feel that he is responsible to Government for the correct-ness of all transactions in his office. The means by which he can exercise such check and control is the system of accoun If accounts are kept properly and are al-ways upto date, the head of the office ca always by a reasonable amount of labour mak sure that nothing is seriously wrong about his office.

4- To awaken the sense of responsibility of heads of offices as regards transaction relating to money and stock in their res-pective offices and to impress on them the paramount necessity of keeping accounts in the prescribed forms and of keeping such ac counts correct upto date, I propose that a system of surprise visits by the Comptroll-er and officers deputed by him be instituted in respect of all Government offices. The main outlines of the proposed system may be stated as follows:

unsatisfactory, an immediate report should be made to Government.

(c) An order should be passed by Government making the ministerial heads of offices (Manager, Head Clerk, Superintendent or whatever the designation may be) jointly responsible with the head of the office for the office furniture, books etc. In every office in which cash is kept by a ministerial officer, the name and designation of the ministerial officer jointly responsible for the cash along with the head of the office should be entered in an order book under the signature of the head of the office and the man concerned. This order-book should be kept upto date. A similar order should be recorded regarding the ministerial head of the office in respect of the furniture, books etc.

(d) When in the course of a surprise visit verification, the Comptroller or the officer deputed by him finds the account not written upto date or neglected in such a way that a verification of the book balance with the actual balance in hand cannot be readily effected or finds a considerable difference either in cash or in stock, and such difference is not in his judgment correctly explained, the Comptroller (or the officer deputed by him with the Comptroller's sanction) may place the ministerial officer responsible for the neglected condition of the accounts or for the difference in cash or stock as the case may be

under suspension leaving the head of the office to make such arrangements for the work during the period of enquiry as he may think necessary.

(e) The head of the office should send the papers of the case viz. the Comptroller's verification memo, the explanation of the ministerial and gazetted heads of the office and other documents to Government through the proper channel within a fortnight of the last day of Comptroller's verification and Government should pass such orders as may seem to them to be necessary within one month of the date of receiving such report.

(f) If the Head of the office is absent from headquarters when the Comptroller's verification is made, the senior officer whether Gazetted or ministerial present in the office will assist in the Comptroller's verification and proceed with the duties assigned to the head of the office in the above rule till the head of the office returns to Head Quarters.

(g) The Comptroller or the officer deputed by him will carry on the work of verification without interfering materially with the current work of the office. But if necessary, the work of verification may be carried on by the Comptroller out of office hours by day or by night and the heads of the office both gazetted and ministerial will be pre-

present at the verification and render assistance if required by the Comptroller

5. As regards the Establishment necessary for these surprise visits, an additional gazetted officer will be required. But this will not mean any increase to the cadre of Assistant Commissioners in the state. The Accounts Department is entitled to one of the reservist Assistant Commissioners, but as a matter of fact I have never had a reservist. The result is that there is no officer trained to to take the place of an Assistant Comptroller when he goes on leave, deputation etc- If Government will attach an Asistant Commissioner for training for the Financial Department to my office I shall give him all necessary training and make him pass the Examinations without sending him to Madras or anywhere else and if the proposal regarding the Local Audit Department is sanctioned early, the work in connection with the surprise visits will not require any additional hands to begin with If the visits prove sufficiently useful an additional hand may be allowed for the work later on.

6. I may mention that rules for surprise visits by the Audit Department like the the above do not exist in British India where such checks are left to the Controlling officers and heads of departments. B

it has appeared to me that the number of cases of actual or probable misappropriations of public money or public property in this state make it necessary to adopt some such method atleast for sometime. The value of a regular system of audit or inspection is partly corrective but mainly preventive. For instance, if there had been a proper annual local audit in the Bangalore Municipality from the beginning the men implicated in the defalcations recently brought to light would not have ventured to go so far in their evil ways as they have done. The preventive effect of the institution of the system of local audit on the lines indicated in my scheme now before Government and of the system of surprize visits as suggested in this note will in my opinion be immense. Facts which are every now and then coming to notice shew that energetic steps for securing adequate check and control over Government pecuniary transactions all throughout the state will not come a moment too soon. And if Government do not deal with questions of vital importance with the promptitude which they demand, it is difficult to see how they can altogether avoid the charge of passively facilitating frauds and embezzlements by making such acts easy and tempting to officials on low pay in the absence of proper audit and departmental control.

7. I earnestly hope that Government wi
be pleased to pass early orders on my pr
posal to form a regular Local Audit De-
partment and that they will also approve
of the measures suggested in this ~~work~~ note.
Heads of offices and heads of Departments
who like to have their accounts clear sh
should welcome help in the direction indi
cated; and in fact a prominent departmen-
al head in the State who controls the ex-
penditure of a large sum of money annuall
has repeatedly impressed on me the fact
that both local audits and surprize visit
will have his hearty support. As soon as
Government approve the proposal contained
in this note, a draft order containing th
suggestions regarding surprise visits con
tained herein with such modifications as
the Government may desire will be submit-
ted for the approval of Government and su
-sidiary rules regarding the surprise visi
will also be framed and published.

J. S. Chakravarthy
22.10.09